

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (**Currently Amended**) A sealant for polypropylene consisting essentially of a composition comprising:

a high-pressure-processed low-density polyethylene (A) having a density (measured in accordance with ASTM D 1505) of 910 to 930 kg/m³ and a melt flow rate (measured under a load of 2.16 kg at 190°C in accordance with ASTM D 1238) of 0.5 to 20 g/10 min, and

an ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) having a density (measured in accordance with ASTM D 1505) of 860 to less than 890 kg/m³, a melt flow rate (measured under a load of 2.16 kg at 190°C in accordance with ASTM D 1238), MFR_{2.16}, of 0.5 to 40 g/10 min and a molecular weight distribution (Mw/Mn) determined by gel permeation chromatography (GPC) of 1.5 to 3, obtained from ethylene and an α -olefin having 3 to 10 carbon atoms, ~~and/or~~

a linear low-density polyethylene (C) having a density (measured in accordance with ASTM D 1505) of 890 to 940 kg/m³ and a melt flow rate (measured under a load of 2.16 kg at 190°C in accordance with ASTM D 1238) of 0.2 to 30 g/10 min, obtained from ethylene and an α -olefin having 3 to 10 carbon atoms, or

both of said ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) and said linear low-density polyethylene (C);

wherein, in the composition, the high-pressure-processed low-density polyethylene (A) is contained in an amount of 10 to 85% by weight, the ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) is contained in an amount of [50% by weight or less] less than 50% by weight, and the ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B), and the linear low-density polyethylene (C), or said ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) and said linear low-density polyethylene (C) are contained in a total amount of 15 to 90% by weight, based on the total weight of high-pressure-processed low-density polyethylene (A), ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) and linear low-density polyethylene (C),

which composition exhibits a melt flow rate (measured under a load of 2.16 kg at 190°C in accordance with ASTM D 1238) of 1 to 15 g/10 min and a melt tension (MT) measured at 190°C of 5 to 100 mN.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sealant comprises said ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B), and the ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) has a ratio, $MFR_{10}/MFR_{2.16}$, of melt flow rate (measured under a load of 10 kg at 190°C in accordance with ASTM D 1238), MFR_{10} , to melt flow rate (measured under a load of 2.16 kg at 190°C in accordance with ASTM D 1238), $MFR_{2.16}$, of 5 to 20.

3. (**Currently Amended**) The sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the molecular weight distribution (Mw/Mn) determined by GPC ~~with respect to~~ of the linear low-density polyethylene (C), is in the range of 1.5 to 5.

4. (**Currently Amended**) ~~An easily openable~~ A hermetically sealed package comprising a laminate having a structure such that one side of a sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 is overlaid with a resin layer of polypropylene (II) by heat sealing ~~laminating~~. lamination.

5. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~easily openable~~ hermetically sealed package as claimed in claim 4, wherein the laminate has a structure such that another side, opposite to the side overlaid with the resin layer of polypropylene (II), of the sealant layer (I) is overlaid with a base layer (III) of a member selected from ~~among~~ the group consisting of a polyester, a polyamide, a metallized film, an aluminum foil and a polyolefin by laminating, and wherein the sealant layer (I) has a thickness of 5 to 10 μm .

6. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~easily openable~~ hermetically sealed package as claimed in claim 5, wherein the base layer (III) is

laminated with the sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 by extrusion laminating.

7. (**Currently Amended**) The ~~easily openable~~ hermetically sealed package as claimed in claim 4, wherein the sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 is formed by inflation molding or cast molding.

8. (**Currently Amended**) ~~An easily openable~~ A hermetically sealed package comprising a cover of a laminate and a cup of a resin layer of polypropylene (II),

wherein said laminate ~~having~~ has a structure such that one side of a sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1, is overlaid with a resin layer of polypropylene (II), which is in the form of the cup by laminating; and

such that another side, opposite to the side overlaid with the resin layer of polypropylene (II), of the sealant layer (I) is overlaid by laminating with a base layer (III), said base layer (III) is of a member selected from among the group consisting of a polyester, a polyamide, a metallized film, an aluminum foil and a polyolefin; by laminating,

said base layer (III) and said sealant layer (I) each having a thickness of 5 to 100 μm and form a cover of a laminate.

Please add the new following claims:

9. (New) The sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1, wherein said composition comprises both the ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer (B) and the linear low-density polyethylene (C).

10. (New) The hermetically sealed package as claimed in claim 5, wherein the resin layer of polypropylene (II) is in the form of the cup, the sealant layer (I) and the base layer (III) form a cover of a laminate.

11. (New) The hermetically sealed package as claimed in claim 10, wherein said sealant layer (I) and said base layer (III) each have a thickness of 5 to 100 μ m.

12. (New) An hermetically sealed package comprising a cover of laminate and a cup of a resin layer of polypropylene (II), said cover of laminate having a structure such that one side of a sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 or 2 is overlaid with a base layer (III) of a member selected from among a polyester, a polyamide, a metallized film, an aluminum foil and a polyolefin,

said base layer (III) and said sealant layer (I) each having a thickness of 5 to 100 μm ,

said cup of a resin layer of polypropylene (II) is overlaid with said cover of laminate faced on the side of sealant layer (I) by heat sealing laminating.

13. (New) A sealed package comprising a laminate having a structure such that one side of a sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 is overlaid with a resin layer of polypropylene (II) by heat sealing lamination.

14. (New) The sealed package as claimed in claim 4, wherein the laminate has a structure such that another side, opposite to the side overlaid with the resin layer of polypropylene (II), of the sealant layer (I) is overlaid with a base layer (III) of a member selected from the group consisting of a polyester, a polyamide, a metallized film, an aluminum foil and a polyolefin by laminating, and wherein the sealant layer (I) has a thickness of 5 to 10 μm .

15. (New) The sealed package as claimed in claim 5, wherein the base layer (III) is laminated with the sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed

in claim 1 by extrusion laminating.

16. (New) The sealed package as claimed in claim 4, wherein the sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 is formed by inflation molding or cast molding.

17. (New) A sealed package comprising a cover of a laminate and a cup of a resin layer of polypropylene (II),

wherein said laminate has a structure such that one side of a sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1, is overlaid with a resin layer of polypropylene (II) by laminating; and

such that another side, opposite to the side overlaid with the resin layer of polypropylene (II), of the sealant layer (I) is overlaid by laminating with a base layer (III), said base layer (III) is selected from a polyester, a polyamide, a metallized film, an the group consisting of aluminum foil and a polyolefin;

said base layer (III) and said sealant layer (I) each having a thickness of 5 to 100 μm .

18. (New) The sealed package as claimed in claim 5, wherein the resin layer of polypropylene (II) is in the form of

the cup, the sealant layer (I) and the base layer (III) form a cover of a laminate.

19. (New) The sealed package as claimed in claim 10, said sealant layer (I) and said base layer (III) each having a thickness of 5 to 100um.

20. (New) A sealed package comprising a cover of laminate and a cup of a resin layer of polypropylene (II), said cover of laminate having a structure such that one side of a sealant layer (I) consisting essentially of the sealant for polypropylene as claimed in claim 1 is overlaid with a base layer (III) of a member selected from among a polyester, a polyamide, a metallized film, an aluminum foil and a polyolefin, said base layer (III) and said sealant layer (I) each having a thickness of 5 to 100 μm ,

said cup of a resin layer of polypropylene (II) is overlaid with said cover of laminate faced on the side of sealant layer (I) by heat sealing laminating.